

## Abstract

An ossicle prosthesis (10), which on both of its ends has a first securing element (11) and a second securing element (12) for mechanical connection to a member of the ossicle chain and between the two securing elements has a ball joint, which includes two struts (13, 13') which are solidly connected to the first securing element (11) and between them enclose a gaplike space, in which a ball (14) is pivotably supported in two recesses (15), in which the ball (14) is part of an elongated shaft (16) that connects the two securing elements to one another, characterized in that the elongated shaft (16) includes many balls (14, 14', 14'') adjacent to one another, is displaceable through the gaplike space between the two struts and through a perforation (17) in the first securing element, and one of the balls, in a snapped-in position, snaps between the respective recesses, and that the gaplike space can be made narrower between the two struts (13, 13') of the ball joint for fixation of the shaft (16) after the desired length has been adjusted. Thus a pivot point that is inexpensive to produce, for attaining postoperative variability, and a shaft that is adjustable to an individual length are both available, without having to keep prostheses of different lengths on hand and without having to use complicated special tools for individually adjusting the length during the implantation.